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AGA American Gas Association

Planning and Analysis

Gas Stats

Monthly Gas Utility Statistical Report

1515 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Department of Statistics
Editor: Susan Brown (703) 841-8503

December 1987

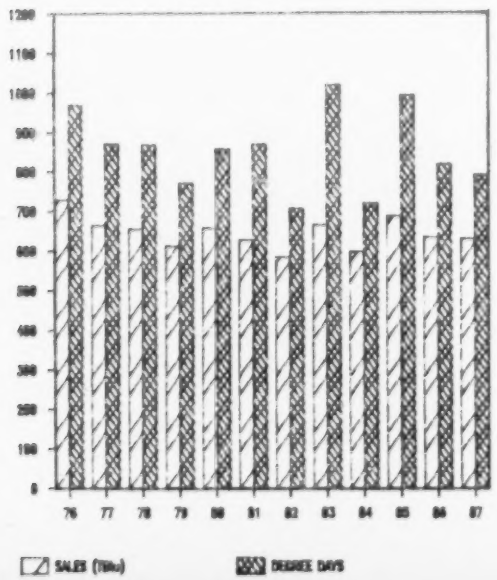
Residential, commercial, and industrial sales decreased in December, 1987 compared with last year. Total utility sales were down from 1,305.4 trillion Btu in December, 1986 to 1,269.8 trillion Btu in December, 1987. Transportation volumes to end-users were up 41.0 percent compared with last year.

GAS UTILITY VOLUMES TO ULTIMATE CONSUMERS (Trillions of Btu)

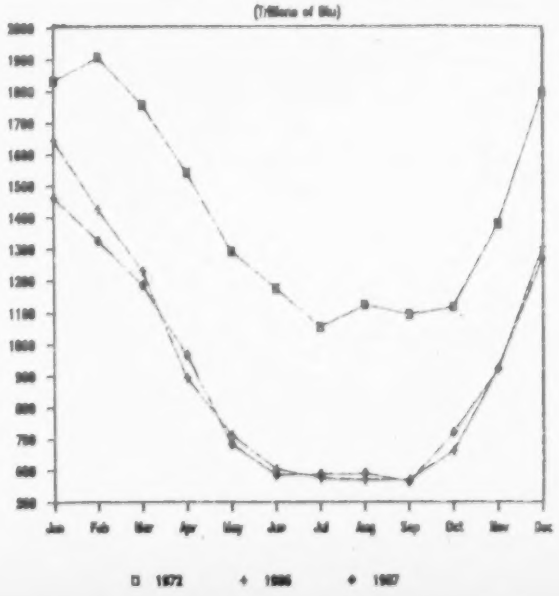
	December			Heating Season (Nov-Dec)		January 1 to December 31		
	1987	1986	%Change[1]	1987	(% Change) Last Period	1987 Forecast[2]	1986	% Change
Residential	630.3	634.1	- 0.6	1,005.2	- 1.3	4,395.6	4,380.1	+ 0.4
Commercial	283.2	302.2	- 6.3	468.3	- 6.5	2,169.7	2,238.4	- 3.1
Industrial*	221.2	243.8	- 9.3	425.0	- 9.1	2,258.0	2,892.0	- 21.9
Elec. Gen.	112.4	104.2	+ 7.9	257.3	+ 23.6	1,866.1	1,448.7	+ 28.8
Other	22.7	21.1	-	37.1	-	179.6	167.2	-
Total Sales	1,269.8	1,305.4	- 2.7	2,192.9	- 1.6	10,869.0	11,126.4	- 2.3
Transportation*	314.0	222.7	+ 41.0	598.3	+ 46.5	3,337.3	2,049.9	+ 62.8
Total Volumes	1,583.8	1,528.1	+ 3.6	2,791.2	+ 10.6	14,206.3	13,176.3	+ 7.8**
Degree Days***	792	819	- 3.3	1,296	- 7.9			

*Significant industrial sales volumes have been displaced by transportation volumes in 1987.
**No direct comparison with EIA consumption figures should be made.
***Source: NOAA (Weighted by Gas Homeheating Customers - Normal for December is 859).

DECEMBER RESIDENTIAL GAS UTILITY SALES



TOTAL MONTHLY GAS UTILITY SALES



RESIDENTIAL APPLIANCE SHIPMENTS - DECEMBER
(Thousands of Units)

		1987	1986	% Change '86 vs.'87
Domestic Ranges	- Gas	197.2	186.8	+ 5.6
	- Electric	254.8	283.0	- 10.0
Clothes Dryers	- Gas	80.2	79.8	+ 0.5
	- Electric	289.6	276.7	+ 4.7
Water Heaters	- Gas	369.3	322.4	+ 14.6
	- Electric	286.2	278.0	+ 3.0
Warm Air Furnaces	- Gas	179.3	182.5	- 1.7
	- Electric	23.7	27.0	- 12.2
	- Oil	17.7	21.4	- 17.2
Boilers	- Gas	17.6	19.6	- 10.3
	- Electric	0.1	0.1	- 14.1
	- Oil	12.9	12.1	+ 6.2

Source: Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA).

SPOT PRICES TO GAS DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES
(December 1987)

Receipt Point	Price ($/MMBtu)[a]
Northeast	$2.20
Southeast	$2.37
Midwest	$2.13
Southwest	$1.73
Total	$2.04

Source: American Gas Association
[a]Represents average price paid at receipt point for a one-month contract.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS - DECEMBER

	1987	1986	% Change '86 vs '87
Total Actual Private Housing Starts (Thous. of units)	84.3	113.0	- 25.4
Consumer Price Index (All urban, unadjusted, 1967 = 100)			
Gas (utility pipe gas)	508.9	523.8	- 2.8
Electricity	358.5	352.1	+ 1.8
Fuel Oil	523.6	443.9	+ 18.0

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Index Total Gas Sales (1972 = 100)	70.7	72.7	- 2.7
Gas Utility Prices ($/MMBtu)			
Residential	5.05	5.15	- 1.9
Commercial	4.70	4.72	- 0.4
Industrial	3.56	3.59	- 0.8
Electric Generation	2.77	2.75	+ 0.7
Total	4.48	4.55	- 1.5
Carriage Volumes[3] (Trillions of Btu)			
To Ultimate Consumers	314.0	222.7	+ 41.0
For Ultimate Consumers	97.8	54.5	+ 79.4
For Resale	578.4	502.0	+ 15.2
Total	990.2	779.2	+ 27.1

Source: American Gas Association

AVERAGE GAS UTILITY PRICES FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING
($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind. Only	Elec. Gen.	Other
1978	Dec.	2.184	2.534	2.279	1.940	1.721	1.788
1979	Dec.	2.522	2.918	2.665	2.261	2.120	1.937
1980	Dec.	3.134	3.612	3.336	3.184	2.651	2.667
1981	Dec.	3.650	4.161	3.909	3.311	3.241	3.458
1982	Dec.	4.456	4.969	4.721	3.969	4.090	4.303
1983	Dec.	5.120	5.882	5.508	4.486	4.198	4.921
1984	Dec.	5.128	5.938	5.511	4.410	4.222	4.869
1985	Dec.	5.017	5.953	5.441	4.248	3.812	4.791
1986	Dec.	4.601	5.651	5.034	3.649	2.726	4.024
1987[P]	Jan.	4.545	5.600	4.967	3.577	2.647	3.987
	Feb.	4.506	5.547	4.910	3.525	2.644	3.905
	Mar.	4.466	5.502	4.856	3.492	2.628	3.862
	Apr.	4.426	5.461	4.819	3.460	2.614	3.790
	May	4.401	5.446	4.802	3.435	2.578	3.754
	Jun.	4.388	5.444	4.799	3.413	2.551	3.758
	Jul.	4.375	5.440	4.792	3.392	2.550	3.693
	Aug.	4.363	5.436	4.788	3.377	2.548	3.668
	Sep.	4.354	5.434	4.784	3.365	2.543	3.657
	Oct.	4.338	5.414	4.758	3.352	2.540	3.616
	Nov.	4.318	5.394	4.751	3.337	2.535	3.589
	Dec.	4.310	5.381	4.749	3.331	2.537	3.536

AVERAGE MONTHLY GAS UTILITY PRICES
($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind.& Elec.	Ind. Only	Elec. Only
1985	Dec.	4.97	5.54	5.24	4.02	4.14	3.71
1986	Jan.	4.95	5.44	5.20	3.93	4.06	3.48
	Feb.	4.95	5.50	5.19	3.84	4.06	2.94
	Mar.	4.81	5.49	5.15	3.59	3.84	2.76
	Apr.	4.68	5.76	5.21	3.38	3.70	2.61
	May	4.49	6.04	5.18	3.24	3.51	2.73
	Jun.	4.29	6.49	5.11	3.10	3.47	2.58
	Jul.	4.11	6.56	4.95	3.01	3.36	2.61
	Aug.	4.12	6.80	4.90	3.01	3.30	2.65
	Sep.	4.11	6.47	4.81	3.02	3.32	2.68
	Oct.	4.40	6.23	4.94	3.09	3.38	2.59
	Nov.	4.51	5.50	4.77	3.23	3.52	2.61
	Dec.	4.55	5.15	4.72	3.34	3.59	2.75
1987[P]	Jan.	4.57	5.14	4.78	3.13	3.44	2.34
	Feb.	4.66	5.17	4.80	3.42	3.64	2.87
	Mar.	4.45	5.14	4.70	3.12	3.55	2.55
	Apr.	4.22	5.27	4.75	2.91	3.35	2.51
	May	4.09	5.76	4.89	2.74	3.15	2.34
	Jun.	4.04	6.48	5.06	2.70	3.13	2.34
	Jul.	3.87	6.42	4.75	2.79	3.06	2.58
	Aug.	3.92	6.66	4.81	2.84	3.09	2.62
	Sep.	3.94	6.44	4.72	2.83	3.12	2.61
	Oct.	4.15	5.74	4.50	2.93	3.22	2.53
	Nov.	4.28	5.27	4.69	3.02	3.37	2.53
	Dec.	4.48	5.05	4.70	3.29	3.56	2.77

Editor - Carole Williams-Hopkins (703/841-8507)

[1]Gas volumes are based on, and the percent change is a function of, the 69 sample companies whose sales constitute about 65% of total gas utility sales to ultimate consumers. The peak year in total sales for the gas utility industry occurred in 1972.
[2]1987 forecasts for the residential and commercial sectors are based on available 1987 monthly data with the remaining months derived by using a four year average. The industrial sector forecast (both industrial only and electric generation) is also based on available 1987 monthly data with the remaining months of 1987 heavily weighted by last years sales with no adjustment made for degree days.
[3]Carriage volumes determined by using a simple straight expansion of sample data to represent the total gas utility industry. Carriage volumes for ultimate consumers are volumes owned by the ultimate consumer but delivered to another transporter, not the ultimate consumer, and are therefore broken out to eliminate double counting of volumes delivered to ultimate consumers.
P-Preliminary.